

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 060901

64

ORIGIN PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SS-20 SSO-00 ISO-00 /023 R

DRAFTED BY S/PRS:JFKING:HHB

APPROVED BY S/PRS - JOHN F. KING

S/S - WHLUERS

----- 097429

O 270131Z MAR 74 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 060901

TOSEC 85

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: REPORTAGE OF TRAVELING PRESS, TUESDAY, MARCH 26

FOR VEST FROM KING

SUMMARY: MOST TRAVELERS HAVE UPBEAT STORIES ON PAGE ONE
CONCENTRATING ON SOVIET OPTIMISM RE OUTCOME OF SALT TALKS
BUT ALSO NOTING HAK'S CAUTIONARY "BLACKMAIL" REMARK. WIRES
BOTH CONCENTRATE ON TODAY'S SUBJECT, THE ME, ALSO IN
POSITIVE TERMS INDICATING NO MAJOR HITCHES HAVE DEVELOPED.
END SUMMARY

GWERTZMAN HAS OFF-LEAD ON P1 OF TIMES EMPHASIZING BOTH
SIDES SEEKING TO CONVEY CONCILIATORY, FRIENDLY MOOD,
SOMEWHAT IN CONTRAST, HE SAYS, TO SHARP WORDS IN SOV PRESS
AND HAK'S PRIVATE AND PUBLIC DOUBTS EXPRESSED PRIOR TO
TAKEOFF. MOST OF BALANCE OF STORY IS COLLECTION OF
QUOTES FROM BREZHNEV, HAK, GROMYKO IN LUNCHEON TOASTS.
FOCUSES ON HAK'S SOMBER COMMENT WARNING AGAINST "ATTEMPT
TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF EACH OTHER" OR "ATTEMPT TO BLACKMAIL
EACH OTHER, OR DEAL WITH EACH OTHER FROM A STRONG POSITION."
ON THIS GWERTZMAN SAYS G. VEST SAID HAK TOLD HIM HE WAS
NOT THINKING OF ANYTHING IN PARTICULAR, BUT SIMPLY STATING
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 060901

LIMITS OF DETENTE. DEEP IN STORY, HAK'S STATEMENT IS

NOTED THAT OUR GREATEST GOAL OVER NEXT THREE YEARS IS FOR RELAXATION OF TENSIONS, A SEEMING REFERENCE TO HIS PLEDGE THAT WHATEVER THE OUTCOME OF WATERGATE DETENTE WILL BE PURSUED. GWERTZMAN'S STORY IS TOPPED BY THREE-COLUMN AP PHOTO OF SMILING HAK AND BREZHNEV GREETING ONE ANOTHER WITH SONNENFELDT IN MIDDLE, ALSO SMILING.

WASHPOST HAS MARDER UNDER TWO-COLUMN P1 OFF LEAD DECLARING US-SOV DETERMINATION TO MAKE PURSUIT OF DETENTE "IRREVERSIBLE." THIS STORY TOO A COLLECTION OF QUOTES FROM BOTH LEADERS GATHERED THROUGH THE DAY, BUT PROMINENTLY FEATURED HIGH UP IS THE WATERGATE CONCERN, AS WITH: IF WHAT WAS SAID IS BORN OUT,, BOTH NATIONS ARE PREPARED TO PUT THEIR POLICY OF DETENTE NOT ONLY ABOVE THE IMPEACHMENT CHALLENGE BUT ALSO ABOVE SUCH OBSTACLES AS THE PRESENT DEADLOCK OVER ATTEMPTS BY THE US CONGRESS TO FORCE THE SOVIET UNION TO LIBERALIZE ITS EMIGRATION POLICY AS A CONDITION FOR AMERICAN TRADE AND CREDITS. MARDER UNDERSCORES THIS PARTICULAR PROBLEM BY IMMEDIATELY QUOTING GROMYKO'S GRUMPY REMINDER THAT BOTH SIDES MUST STRICTLY FULFILL OBLIGATIONS ALREADY UNDERTAKEN. BALANCE OF STORY IS CONGERIES OF QUOTES WHICH MARDER UNDERTAKES TO INTERPRET; NOTHING EXCEPTIONAL RESULTS BUT THIS: STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN G. VEST USED UP A WEEK'S QUOTA OF BUOYANT ADJECTIVES IN DESCRIBING THE ATMOSPHERE AMONG THE TWO DELEGATIONS (SIC) AT THE LUNCHEON GIVEN BY GROMYKO -- "VERY CHEERFUL AND PLEASANT INDEED. THE ATMOSPHERE COULD NOT HAVE BEEN MORE FRIENDLY, CORDIAL AND WARM." NO OTHER BACKGROUND QUOTES APPEAR. POST FRONT PAGE HAS FOUR-COLUMN UPI PHOTO OF HAK AND BREZHNEV AS MILE; SONNENFELDT DOES NOT APPEAR HERE.

KEATLEY AGAIN A NO SHOW IN WSJ.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE HAS TWO COLUMN P1 STORY BELOW FOLD BENEATH THREE COLUMN TOP HEAD PHOTO OF HAK/BREZHNEV "SHARING HEARTY LAUGH" (NO SONNENFELDT). STARR LEADS WITH BREZHNEV OPTIMISM THAT NEW STRATEGIC ARMS AGREEMENT COULD BE SIGNED DURING PRESIDENT NIXON'S EXPECTED VISIT IN JUNE. STARR UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 060901

COMMENTS HAK SHARED OPTIMISM BUT TEMPERED IT BY WARNING THAT NEITHER SIDE SHOULD TRY TO BLACKMAIL OTHER SIDE. STARR PLACED "BLACKMAIL" COMMENT WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF HAK SPRINKLING OF COLD WATER ON AN OTHERWISE WARM BEGINNING. QUOTES EXTENSIVELY FROM LUNCHEON TOASTS. STARR ALSO HIGHLIGHTS ARBATOV'S REMARKS THAT PRESIDENT'S VISIT WOULD GO ON EVEN IF AWAITING SENATE IMPEACHMENT TRIAL AND THAT EVEN A CHANGE OF ADMINISTRATION SHOULD NOT AFFECT DETENTE.

STARR NOTES THAT HAK SAID ADMINISTRATION'S GREATEST GOAL OVER NEXT THREE YEARS WAS TO MAKE SOVIET-US RELATIONSHIP "IRREVERSIBLE"; HE SAYS LAST YEAR IN SAN CLEMENTE BREZHNEV HAD SAID IT WAS IRREVERSIBLE, AND HAK HAD AGREED.

CSM OF MONDAY JUST CAME IN. HAS THREE COLUMN SPREAD (P1) BY SAIKOWSKI UNDER HAK/BREZHNEV SKETCH AGAINST KREMLIN BACKDROP. LEAD IS CAN THE TWO SUPER POWERS BRING UNDER CONTROL THAT LATEST IN NUCLEAR MONSTERS, THE MIRV? THAT IS THE PARAMOUNT AND CRUCIAL QUESTION. SAIKOWSKI CITES SENIOR AMERICAN OFFICIAL SAYING THAT IF SALT AGREEMENT IS REACHED THIS YEAR, IT WILL NOT BE A COMPREHENSIVE ONE. ARTICLE NOTES DOBRYNIN'S UPBEAT COMMENTS ON AGREEMENT. SAIKOWSKI SAYS HAK MISSION COMING AT TIME WHEN
E E E E E E E

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE060901
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JFKING:HHB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740065-0813
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740311/aaaaajtm.tel
Line Count: 125
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN PRS
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinml
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 JUL 2002 by elbezefj>; APPROVED <11 DEC 2002 by martinml>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPORTAGE OF TRAVELING PRESS, TUESDAY, MARCH 26 FOR VEST FROM KING
TAGS: OVIP, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005